

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am heartily thankful to my supervisor, Dr. Arnab Sarkar, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (B.H.U.) Varanasi, whose encouragement, guidance and support from the initial stage to the completion of this work enabled me to develop a thorough understanding of the subject. The completion of this thesis work would not have been possible without his noble guidance and significant contribution. His in-depth knowledge, inspiration, energy and efforts have tremendously helped me in carrying out this research work

Also, I express my gratitude to my co-supervisor, Prof. Sasankasekhar Mandal, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (B.H.U.) Varanasi, for their help and encouragement during the entire course.

Further, I am also highly obliged to Prof. A.P.Harsha, Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (B.H.U.) Varanasi, for the encouragement and motivation extended to me.

I also owe my sincere gratitude to all the professors whom I have come across during my stay at IIT (B.H.U.) for their encouragement and suggestions.

I would like to thank my seniors and friends for their help and support given to me during completion of this research work.

Last but not the least I am truly thankful to my parents and family members for their love, support and encouragement. I am greatly thankful to the one-who is above all of us, the omnipresent God, for listening to my prayers and giving me strength. I also thank to all those who have helped me, directly or indirectly, in completion of this thesis work.